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T L A N T I C



I R E C T O R Y



ENVIRONMENT



CANADA'S



• SERVICES



• PROGRAMS &



• PERSONNEL



Canada

Également disponible sous le titre "Services,  
programmes et personnel d'Environnement  
Canada – Annuaire de la région de  
l'Atlantique 1987"

© Minister of Supply and Services Canada, 1986

English:  
Catalogue #EN-21-60/1987E  
ISBN 0-662-14911-4

French:  
Catalogue #EN-21-60/1987F  
ISBN 0-662-93881-X



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction ..... 2



The Committee of Regional  
Executives (CORE) ..... 3



Atmospheric Environment Service .... 4



Conservation and Protection:

• Director General's Office ..... 7



• Canadian Wildlife Service ..... 8



• Environmental Protection  
Service ..... 10



• Inland Waters Directorate ..... 13



Parks ..... 15



Communications Services Unit ..... 17



The purpose, objectives and legal  
mandate of Environment Canada ..... 18



Maps of the deployment of  
Environment Canada staff  
in the Atlantic provinces ..... 20



## Introduction



We are pleased to provide you with this description of the components, programs and services of Environment Canada in the Atlantic provinces. Our intention is to assist you in understanding how we are organized, and how we conduct our business, to protect and conserve Atlantic Canada's environment.

Early in the 1986/87 fiscal year some changes were made at Environment Canada which are reflected in this publication. A Committee of Regional Executives (CORE), was created on April 1, 1986, to serve as the corporate focal point for Environment Canada in the Atlantic provinces. As well "Conservation and Protection" was created from consolidating three existing Services of the Department, and streamlining their operations.

The other Services remain relatively unchanged. Park's national parks and historic sites are continuing sources of pride in the region. And the Atmospheric Environment Service's weather and ice forecasts and warnings continue to be essential to the general public, fishermen, farmers and many other sectors.

Senior personnel are listed in this guide after the description of the sections, programs and services of each component of our department. We encourage you to telephone or write to those individuals to learn more about how we are serving the region's environment, and about how we can work together to do so.

*— The Committee of  
Regional Executives*



1. The Atlantic Provinces are privileged to enjoy rich natural assets which are both a birthright and a responsibility.



The Atlantic Committee of Regional Executives was created effective April 1, 1986, as a result of a consolidation of some of the regional components of Environment Canada. It consists of the Directors General of Conservation and Protection, and Parks, and the Regional Director of the Atmospheric Environment Service. Support is provided to CORE by a one person Secretariat.

The role of CORE is to provide a strong departmental presence in the region in order to better serve the public and to provide regional input to the corporate decision making and planning process.

The first element of this role entails: (1) providing a departmental presence in dealing with other federal government departments, the Atlantic provinces and other interest groups; (2) providing coherent and consistent information to external parties; (3) providing corporate support to Environment Canada's Minister and Deputy Minister, such as by coordinating visits; and (4) providing a cohesive approach in the development and implementation of departmental policies and programs in the region.

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**Committee  
of Regional  
Executives  
(CORE)**



*2. Despite the size and biological diversity of the Northwest Atlantic, its resources and its capacity to contain man's wastes are limited.*



## Atmospheric Environment Service



Twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, the Atmospheric Environment Service (AES) provides weather and ice observations, forecasts and warnings to the general public and to a variety of special users, not only in Canada but throughout the world. It also provides climatological information on ice and sea state and conducts atmospheric research. The regional office coordinates and manages all of the AES field programs through the following components:

### 1. FORECAST OPERATIONS

in Bedford, Nova Scotia coordinates and manages two major centres.

- **THE MARITIMES WEATHER CENTRE** located in Bedford, Nova Scotia has responsibility for forecast services for the Maritime provinces and adjacent waters. Weather forecasts, warnings and specialized consultations are prepared at the Maritimes Weather Centre and issued for this area of responsibility. In addition, certain meteorological guidance material is prepared for all the Atlantic provinces. The Maritimes Weather Centre is also the meteorological communications centre for the Maritimes and adjacent waters.

- **THE NEWFOUNDLAND WEATHER CENTRE** located in Gander, Newfoundland has responsibility for Newfoundland, Labrador and adjacent waters and is the meteorological communications centre for these areas. Weather forecasts, warnings and specialized consultations are prepared at the Newfoundland Weather Centre and issued for these areas.

### 2. GENERAL WEATHER SERVICES

performs two primary functions:

- the regional coordination of user requirements which involves identifying the actual needs of all regional users, and
- the organization and control of the provision of weather services within the Atlantic provinces. Weather services required include special forecasts or warnings, consultations, flight briefings, historical data and weather charts. A weatheradio network with broadcast facilities at the Maritimes Weather Centre provides coverage to Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and adjacent waters. A facility at the Moncton Weather Office provides weatheradio coverage to New Brunswick, and one at the Newfoundland Weather Centre covers Newfoundland and Labrador.

### 3. THE DATA ACQUISITION DIVISION

organizes, coordinates and controls the regional meteorological observing programs and stations. It also plans and installs extensions to the existing network, operates special data-collection networks for research projects, and collaborates with outside scientists and engineers who require special data from sites not located in the network. A major task of this Branch is the inspection of all meteorological installations to assure the proper operation of the instrumentation, and the use of approved techniques by the staff.



3. A radiosonde balloon's voyage in the upper air measures such elements as temperature and wind speed, important data for aviation forecasts.



**4. THE SCIENTIFIC SERVICES DIVISION** serves clients who require special consultation whereby meteorological science and knowledge must be applied to their particular problem. This division is also involved in cooperative studies with federal and provincial government departments, universities and private consultants. At the regional level it is responsible for the Service input to the Environmental Assessment and Review Process (EARP), the Toxic Chemicals Program, and the Long Range Transport of Air Pollutants Program. In addition, it is responsible in large part for the quality control process applied to data collected by the climatological network prior to its placement in the National Archives. This Branch maintains a small meteorological reference library.



*4. Daily weather observations made by a large cadre of volunteers and professionals are essential for the production of forecasts and severe weather warnings.*

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Early in the 1986/87 fiscal year, three of Environment Canada's Services were consolidated into an organization entitled Conservation and Protection (C&P). The amalgamation of the Canadian Wildlife Service, the Environmental Protection Service and the Inland Waters Directorate is intended to provide more efficient and effective program delivery and services in the areas of water, land, wildlife and environmental protection.

The Director General's office is responsible for the overall delivery of Conservation and Protection activities in the region. It is particularly concerned with such management activities as:

- implementing changes to the C&P Atlantic program structure and coordinating C&P priority setting, resource allocation and program evaluation,
- initiating and developing joint programs with provincial governments to enhance environmental quality,
- fostering good communications between the C&P Atlantic staff and the general public such as environmental non-government organizations, industry or interest groups,
- management of a regional briefing/correspondence secretariat.

Through the Director General's office finance and administration and personnel services are provided to meet the human resources and operational needs of the C&P Services.

**THE FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION BRANCH** consists of two divisions:

- **THE ADMINISTRATION SERVICES DIVISION** oversees activities which are common to all branches including: registry, warehousing, inventory, purchasing, communications, library services, accommodations, personnel liaison, coordination and security. The Division also manages and undertakes special studies relating to the Resource Utilization Inventory and parliamentary enquiries.
- **THE REGIONAL FINANCE DIVISION** includes budgetary control, control of revenue and accounting sections. This Division provides financial advice, assists in budget preparation, advises on contracts and agreements and provides an audit capability.

**The Personnel Branch** provides expertise to managers and employees in the region in the areas of:

- human resources planning,
- staff relations,
- employee assistance,
- training,
- staffing and classification,
- pay and benefits,
- affirmative action, and
- official languages.

**Conservation & Protection**  
**The Director General's Office**



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## Canadian Wildlife Service

The Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) draws its mandate mainly from three Acts: the Migratory Birds Convention Act, the Canada Wildlife Act, and the Environmental Contaminants Act.

The role of the CWS is basically twofold: (a) to manage and protect migratory birds in Canada, and (b) to cooperate with, and assist the governments of the provinces and territories in carrying out research and management projects relating to wildlife. Corresponding with these two areas of responsibility, in the Atlantic provinces CWS is split into two divisions: Migratory Birds Management, and Wildlife & Habitat Conservation. The Canadian Wildlife Service has a complement of 35 person years and a \$352,500 budget for the 1986/87 fiscal year.

### CWS divisions

#### • THE MIGRATORY BIRDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION:

The activities of this division, which involves the most staff and resources, focus on seabird research, waterfowl surveys, shorebird ecology studies, and enforcement of the Migratory Bird Regulations.

#### • THE WILDLIFE & HABITAT CONSERVATION DIVISION is responsible for:

- a. wetland habitat acquisition and management;
- b. monitoring, protection and rehabilitation of rare and endangered species,

- c. investigation of the effects of pollutants on wildlife and wildlife habitat (the Toxic Substances Program, including Long Range Transport of Air Pollutants [LRTAP] or acid rain);
- d. studying the potential impacts of major resource developments on wildlife and wildlife habitat (the Environmental Impact Assessment Program).



5. With the aid of a soft net CWS biologists band shorebirds, which helps in their studies of the birds' biology, distribution and habitat.



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6. This baby peregrine falcon was one of several released as part of the CWS program to re-establish this bird species in Atlantic Canada.

The Atlantic provinces office of the Environmental Protection Service (EPS) was established in April, 1972, with a mandate to protect the environment and to ensure environmental quality enhancement where federal jurisdiction or interests are concerned. EPS has a complement of 90 person years and a budget of approximately \$4.6 million for the 1986/87 fiscal year.

### **Components**

#### **• THE CONTAMINANTS AND ASSESSMENTS BRANCH:**

The overall objectives of this Branch include restricting the kinds and amounts of toxic chemicals and hazardous wastes entering the environment, limiting the adverse environmental impact of inland or coastal developments or activities, and evaluating regional environmental quality. The Branch is divided into two divisions:

- a. **THE TOXICS, CONTAMINANTS AND HAZARDOUS WASTES DIVISION:**
  - contributes its scientific knowledge to the development of methods for controlling and disposing of toxic chemicals;
  - leads a federal-provincial program aimed at developing and implementing a regional wastes management system including a regional treatment-storage disposal facility;
  - conducts field studies and monitoring of agricultural and forestry pesticides usage;
  - chairs a regional interdepartmental advisory group on pesticides which reviews permit applications for their environmental implications;

- manages the regional Toxic Chemicals Management Program;
- coordinates the regional hazardous wastes abandoned sites studies;
- contributes to the “manifest system” for controlling the transportation of hazardous wastes and other toxic chemicals “from cradle to grave”, and
- participates in the development of pertinent regulations.

- b. **THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY DIVISION:**

- develops and puts into operation systems to identify environmental protection problems and to measure the effects of actions taken to counteract those problems;
- develops and implements systems that measure environmental trends and

that describe environmental quality;

- conducts, and assists in, environmental reviews as part of the EPS Atlantic participation in the federal government Environmental Assessment and Review Process (EARP), and contributes to provincial reviews when requested to, and
- conducts and coordinates field studies and post-development monitoring of coastal development projects and biocide application proposals.

#### **• THE AIR AND WATER BRANCH**

is responsible for the direction and implementation of air and water pollution control programs; the development of appropriate regional policies, and the provision of chemistry, toxicity and microbiology laboratory expertise for all regional EPS programs.



*7. Air pollution may affect areas not only close to the source but also those hundreds or thousands of kilometers away.*



This Branch consists of three divisions:

- a. **THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL DIVISION**  
develops appropriate measures to protect inland and near shore marine waters based on national regulations and guidelines, or on-site specific needs. The implementation of these measures involves field surveys, negotiations, monitoring and auditing. The implementation is generally done in cooperation with, or in support of, the provincial governments.
- b. **THE AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DIVISION:**
  - implements regulations under the Clean Air Act which involves assessing the need for controls and ensuring that the proper controls are installed and monitored (included in these regulations are those related to fuel additives for lead and lead-free gas);
  - assesses air quality and the deposition of harmful substances coming from emissions or from the atmosphere, including those resulting from the long range transport of air pollutants (*i.e.* acid rain); and
  - provides technical consultation and assistance to the four provincial governments.
- c. **THE LABORATORY DIVISION:**
  - provides chemical, toxicological and microbiological analytical support and data interpretation for all regional projects, and undertakes special projects for the identification and quantification of pollutants;
  - provides technical input for the development of

regulations and guidelines; and

– conducts bacteriological water quality surveys as part of its management of the Maritime Shellfish Program.

• **THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT BRANCH**

is responsible for Ocean Dumping Control activities and the Environmental Emergencies Program. It is also responsible for the review of environmental impact assessments for developments in the marine environment, in particular offshore energy exploration and development projects. The Marine Environment Branch contains two divisions:

- a. **THE ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCIES DIVISION:**  
implements the regional emergencies activities of EPS including emergency response, contingency planning and spill containment advice, response technology development, information transfer, and spill prevention. The Division maintains a 24-hour environmental emergency alert telephone number (902) 426-6200, to receive and disseminate information involving the public, government agencies, and industries; and concerning spills and discharges of oil or other hazardous materials into the environment.
- b. **THE MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS DIVISION:**
  - reviews and evaluates the environmental consequences of projects and activities in the marine environment; especially those which are financed, licensed, or otherwise

controlled by federal agencies and which are subject to the federal Environmental Assessment and Review Process (EARP);

– develops marine and coastal sensitivity maps used in impact assessment reviews and emergency response planning;

– administers the permit system for the Ocean Dumping Control Act in the region, and handles inspection and enforcement actions for that Act; and

– undertakes or coordinates studies to investigate the acceptability of dumping of wastes and dredge spoils into the marine environment.

**Provincial District Offices**

EPS maintains district offices located in Fredericton, St. John's, Charlottetown and Dartmouth which are responsible for integrating EPS activities with those of the four Atlantic provincial governments and of other federal agencies. Each office is managed by a District Director who administers local activities and programs, and develops effective working relationships with provincial and federal government officials in order to facilitate the implementation of environmental policies and programs. The District Directors also provide advice on the effectiveness of EPS programs in their respective provinces.

The Newfoundland and Labrador District Office provides a complete range of the programs and activities described above, similar to the regional headquarters office located in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.



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The Inland Waters Directorate (IWD) which focuses on water quality, supply, distribution and use, now also encompasses the Lands Division which conducts land use monitoring, researches land and water conservation and advises on federal land management. The Directorate has a complement of 86 person years and a budget of approximately \$2.9 million for the 1986/87 fiscal year.

Under the Canada Water Act, IWD supervises all regional aspects of the national Flood Damage Reduction Program. Through cost-shared agreements with the four provincial governments, a water quantity data collection network is in place in all four provinces. The IWD has initiated a Water Quality Monitoring Agreement with Newfoundland and is in the process of negotiating similar agreements with New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia.

Under the Boundary Waters Treaty Act, IWD administers for Canada's part the International Joint Commission's rulings on international waters issues. In addition, the Directorate provides advice to the Environmental Assessment and Review Process on the impacts proposed economic developments could have on Atlantic region water resources.

Major initiatives in 1986/87 include: (a) a pilot project to integrate the interpretation of water quality, quantity and socio-economic data to produce information on the St. Croix River Basin relevant to user interests, (b) an integrated review of the hydrometric data collection network in New Brunswick, and (c) a study of groundwater contamination related to toxic chemicals.

## IWD components

### • THE WATER PLANNING & MANAGEMENT BRANCH:

- provides planning, engineering and economic services to Conservation and Protection – Atlantic,

- participates in both the negotiation and the implementation of cost-shared, federal-provincial water management studies,

- coordinates all regional aspects of the National Flood Damage Reduction Program,

- carries out a variety of technical water resources studies in cooperation with the provincial governments,

- provides expertise and research linking land and water conservation efforts to alleviate poor land use practices or soil erosion which reduces land use potential and contributes to water quality problems and degradation of fish habitat,

- provides access to, and expert advice in, the use of the Canada Land Data System, which contains the largest holding of land data worldwide, and

- advises and provides analysis on federal land management on the Federal Policy on Land Use.

## Inland Waters Directorate



8. The environmental and economic importance of water, one of our most abundant natural resources, tends to be undervalued.

• **THE WATER QUALITY  
BRANCH:**

- collects and analyzes water quality samples in support of federal water management interests,
- maintains an ongoing regional water quality monitoring network,
- analyzes samples collected for a variety of specific environmental projects,
- prepares comprehensive interpretive reports, and
- is involved in special water related studies of toxic chemicals, compliance of water quality with national objectives, and the long range transport of air pollutants (*i.e.* acid rain). A fully equipped Branch laboratory and offices are located in Moncton, New Brunswick.

• **THE WATER RESOURCES  
BRANCH** operates a network of approximately 250 stations for measuring and recording water flows and levels. In some locations river sediments are also measured. Covering all four Atlantic provinces, this network is part of the national Water Survey of Canada data system.

Most of the stations in the network are operated under cost-sharing agreements with the provincial governments. The data provided by this network is widely used by provincial power utilities, consulting engineers and others in the design of engineering works. As a result, this data makes a significant contribution to the economic development of Atlantic Canada.

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Parks has the responsibility to protect those places which are significant examples of Canada's natural and cultural heritage and to encourage public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of this heritage. Some of these places, like Gros Morne National Park in Newfoundland, are known around the world as symbols of the natural beauty of Canada. Other places, like the reconstructed Fortress of Louisbourg, are living evidence of the history of our country and the achievements of our ancestors.

Each National Park, National Historic Park or Historic Canal is unique and Parks acts as the trustee of this national inheritance. Therefore, its primary responsibility is to conserve, protect and interpret the resources which have been entrusted to it, including natural and historic resources, wildlife, flora, geological features and artifacts.

In the four Atlantic provinces, Parks is responsible for the operation, preservation, development and interpretation of seven National Parks, 21 National Historic Parks and the historic St. Peters Canal. As well, Parks is responsible for the maintenance of over 300 plaques which commemorate people, places and events of national historic significance.

Each park or field unit is the direct responsibility of a Parks Superintendent. His or her staff is supported by a team of specialists and professionals based in the regional office in Halifax. Guided by the Director General, who reports to the Assistant Deputy Minister, this support group is responsible for research, and operational planning and direction in cooperation with program headquarters in Ottawa/Hull.



9. Progress made today to protect our heritage areas ensures a cultural and environmental inheritance for future generations.



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The Communications Services unit is responsible for:

- initiating and ensuring various regional corporate communications products and activities;
- providing communications advice and assistance to the staff of the Services of the department in the region;
- carrying out national corporate communications initiatives in the Atlantic region, and
- providing information, advice and assistance to the Director General of the Communications Directorate and to the department's headquarters Communications staff in Ottawa.

Its objectives are:

- to aggressively encourage Atlantic Canadians to protect our environment, and to conserve and enhance certain of our natural resources;
- to increase public appreciation for the contributions of Environment Canada, and
- to seek out public opinions and concerns regarding the department's policies and activities.

The Regional Director of Communications Services reports directly to the Director General of Communications in Ottawa.

Communications Services activities include:

- encouraging and increasing regular dialogue and information transfer between regional Services staff and their clientele by providing professional communications advice and expertise to the Services;
- increasing public awareness of Environment Canada's activities and programs in the

region by the annual production and distribution of three issues of the "Envirogram" newsletter, this regional directory and a "Direct Access Guide";

- participating in a regional federal-provincial communications working group which produces public information materials that are used in the four Atlantic provincial school systems and by the general public;

- identifying regional issues and public perceptions of environmental problems through the monitoring of the regional electronic and print news media and through regular contact with provincial environment communications colleagues and environmental groups, and

- organizing and implementing regional Canadian Environment Week activities during the first week of June each year.

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## Communications Services Unit



*11. Atlantic Canadians' awareness of and support for the environment is a cornerstone for effective environmental protection and conservation programs.*



## A National Overview

### The purpose, objectives and legal mandate of Environment Canada

The *purpose* of Environment Canada is to: “foster harmony between society and the environment for the economic and social benefit of present and future generations of Canadians”.

To achieve this, the Department pursues four principal *objectives*:

1. to conserve and enhance Canada's renewable resources for sustained economic and social benefit,
2. to protect the environment from the adverse impacts of human activities,
3. to facilitate the adaptation of human activities to the environment,
4. to safeguard and foster public understanding and enjoyment of Canada's natural and historic heritage.

Environment Canada's statutory *mandate* derives largely from the Government Organization Act (1979). This Act establishes that the duties, powers and functions of the federal Minister of the Environment extend to, and include, all matters over which Parliament has jurisdiction not otherwise federally assigned, and relating to:

- preservation and enhancement of the quality of the natural environment, including water, air and soil quality;
- certain renewable resources;
- migratory birds and other non-domestic flora and fauna;
- water;
- meteorology;
- national parks, national historic parks and sites, and heritage canals;

- enforcement of rules and regulations arising from advice of the International Joint Commission relating to boundary waters and questions arising between the United States and Canada that relate to the preservation and enhancement of environmental quality, and

- other federal matters relating to the natural environment which are assigned to the Minister.

To carry out these responsibilities, the Minister is empowered to initiate programs that promote the adoption of standards relating to environmental quality and pollution control; to mitigate adverse environmental impacts on new federal projects; and to provide Canadians with environmental information.

The federal Minister of the Environment is wholly responsible for the

administration of the following federal government Acts:

- a. the Canada Water Act, 1970
- b. the Canada Wildlife Act, 1973-74
- c. the Clean Air Act, 1971
- d. the Environmental Contaminants Act, 1974
- e. the Game Export Act, 1970
- f. the Historic Sites and Monuments Act, 1970
- g. the International Rivers Improvement Act, 1970
- h. the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1970
- i. the National Parks Act, 1970, and
- j. the Weather Modification Information Act, 1970-71-72.



12. Increased agricultural, forestry and urban activities have heightened competition for Canada's limited usable land resources.



Cabinet directives such as the decision to institute a federal environmental impact assessment process may also initiate and govern some departmental activities. In addition, there are certain sections of other federal Acts which the Minister is responsible for administering or for which the department delivers an advisory role. These Acts include:

- a. the Act Respecting the National Battlefields at Quebec,
- b. the Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act,
- c. the Canada Shipping Act,
- d. the Department of Transport Act (canals),
- e. the Fisheries Act (Section 33),
- f. the International Boundary Waters Treaty Act,
- g. the Motor Vehicle Safety Act (the emission provision),
- h. the Northern Inland Waters Act,
- i. the Ocean Dumping Control Act,
- j. the Pest Products Control Act, and
- k. the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act.

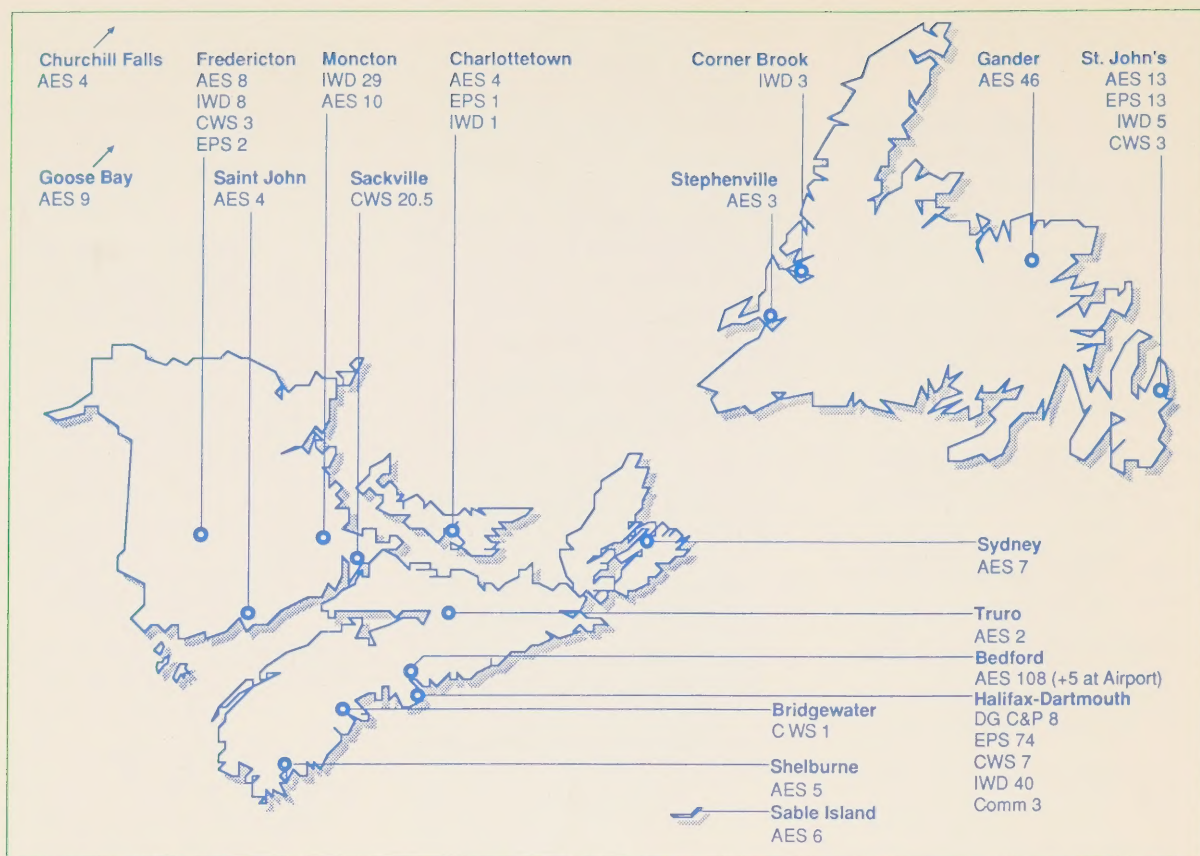
Environment Canada's departmental responsibilities extend to influencing other federal agencies and in some cases developing guidelines for their activities, and to working with provincial governments and the public to preserve and enhance environmental quality.

Much of this work is conducted under the terms of federal-provincial agreements, work sharing arrangements, and letters of understanding with other national and international agencies. Such arrangements are usually subject to approval by the Governor-in-Council and include such examples as:

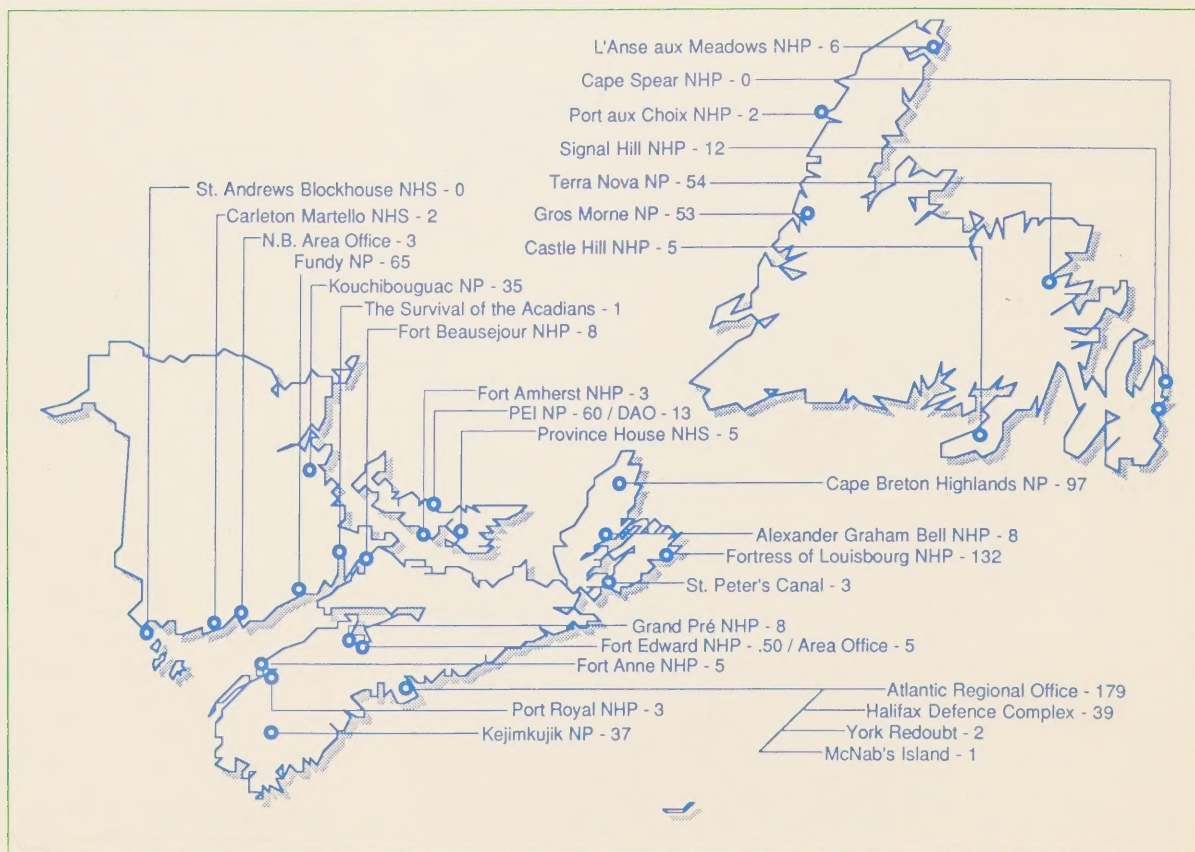
- a. federal-provincial water survey agreements,
- b. federal-provincial flood damage reduction agreements,
- c. federal-provincial environmental accords,
- d. the Canada/U.S. Bilateral Shellfish Agreement, and
- e. the International Migratory Birds Treaty.



Maps of the  
deployment  
of  
Environment  
Canada staff  
in the  
Atlantic  
provinces



**Map 1.** Deployment of Environment Canada "Person Years" in the Atlantic Region in 1986/87 (excluding Parks).



**Map 2.** Deployment of Parks "Person Years" in the Atlantic Region in 1986/87.

NP = NATIONAL PARK

NHP = NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK

NHS = NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

DAO = DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE



**Produced and distributed by:**

Communications Services,  
Environment Canada  
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